

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

August 4, 2009

Supervisors Ridley-Thomas and Antonovich have introduced a motion that requires 100% healthy food options consistent with the State of California's Nutritional Guidelines in the operation of vending machines within County Facilities. The motion also seeks a report on additional steps that can be taken to extend a similar standard of healthy-food options to County-sponsored events and procurement activities.

I believe this Board has a role in promoting a healthy lifestyle. However, I do not believe our role should extend so far as to preclude access to alternative options the public may choose to select for themselves, particularly when experiencing our County's numerous recreational, entertainment and cultural venues. Accordingly, whereas I can accept a limitation on options we provide in our general government facilities, I can not accept the same limitation on options available to the broader public when they come to County facilities for the recreation and leisure purposes.

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RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

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ANTONOVICH _____

KNABE _____

Additionally, there are County departments that rely on sponsorship agreements to offset operational costs for maintaining safe and healthy environments and for programs that promote recreational activities for children and encourage active lifestyles for adults. Therefore, if we were to limit ourselves to having only healthy options in our vending machines, these same departments might very well be forced to cover a budget shortfall with cuts above and beyond those we have already required and may soon require given the tenuous State fiscal condition. I believe this is asking too much during this particularly tough economic period.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Ridley-Thomas/Antonovich motion be amended to recognize the difference between vending machines within County business facilities, where the availability of solely healthy-food options is more acceptable, and those at the County recreational, entertainment and cultural venues, where limiting food and beverage choices is not a sound fiscal option.

I, FURTHER, MOVE that any department with an existing sponsorship agreement, or one being negotiated as built into the 2009-10 Adopted Budget, be exempted from the motion, along with custody facilities of the Sheriff's Department, unless the Board is able to also provide increased net County cost to cover the department's resulting shortfall from the loss of these sponsorships.

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